

NASHVILLE:

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1857.

The Mormons and the General Government.

The rise and progress of the Mormons at the time and in the midst of the general intelligence which prevails every where around them, presents an anomaly in the general history of our times and our government as disagreeable to the political powers that be as it is interesting to the people.

Professing a religious sect in the outset, basing their faith on a new revelation and the institution of a new messenger of the Divine will, combining the two characters of apostle and prophet, a book of doctrine and ceremonial has grown up, ten times more absurd than the Alcoran of the Moslem of a dozen centuries ago.

In its very inception its tenets assumed all the aims of the most restless and intolerant fanaticism. But a few years elapsed before the prime Prophet had marked out a line of civil policy which was immediately engrafted into his religious beliefs, and at once became a part and parcel of it.

It was in direct conflict with the laws of the country in which he was born, and which assured him and his followers the right of worship as their consciences dictated. He established a hierarchy in the midst of the Republic, openly defying the laws and authority of the latter.

He met with opposition by necessity, but in proportion to this opposition did his own arrogance and assumption and the zeal and violence of his followers, increase. So fractious and defiant he became, that he openly threatened to seize the office of chief magistrate of the Union, and make the people and the government subservient to his dictation.

Collision and conflict were inevitable, and while the self-sufficient prophet was proclaiming himself invulnerable and omnipotent, he was struck down and died. This was JO. SMITH.

Other leaders and prophets sprang up to fill his place—the temple was abandoned, and this infuriated people pitched their tents farther toward the West. And finally, under the pressure of the laws for the preservation of good order and good government, they fled beyond the limits of organized society, and took up their habitation in the wilderness of the Territory of Utah.

They now proclaim themselves sovereign and independent. They refuse to recognize the authority or superiority of the United States over them. They have asserted their opposition and proclaimed their defiance. They have spurned the officers sent out by the President to manage the affairs of the territory; they have denounced the Judges and destroyed the records of the Federal Courts, they have sent inflammatory messages to the government authorities, they have thrown themselves in the pathway of communication between the Atlantic and Pacific States, burnt trains of wagons, freighted with munitions and stores, which were for government purposes, merely for entering their territory, and still more recently, they have set upon and murdered peaceful citizens of Arkansas and Missouri, while emigrating to California. The government has hitherto pursued a course of treatment toward them, such as was fitting from a community of sane men, to a community of fanatics—that of forbearance and tender remembrance. This they have spurned, and are growing every day more and more refractory and insolent. The time seems to be approaching when it is proper to assert the paramount authority of the general government, and to coerce obedience to the civil law of the land.

With this view the President has ordered a military force to the territory. Brigham Young, however, meets the commanding officer with a peremptory command that he shall not enter the territory—and intimates that if he comes he comes at the hazard of blood. That this will be the final result, the present aspect of affairs leaves room for little doubt. The Mormons seem possessed with the idea that the Government has set itself up in hostility to them, and if we are to take the proclamation of Young, as any evidence of the serious intentions of his people, they are resolved to resist to the last extremity. We have no reliable data upon which to rest an estimate of their numbers; but it is stated that they claim to have sixty thousand fighting men. They are certainly strong enough to give the government much trouble; and they may be able to prolong the struggle far beyond what most people are inclined to suppose. It is certain that the force already sent by the President is wholly inadequate to accomplish the end desired. It will require a much more formidable array of numbers, and vigor of action, than he seems to have calculated. The season is now so far advanced, as that nothing decisive can be done until the opening of the next Spring—when we suppose the ball will be opened in earnest.

The Chinese Sugar Cane.

The experiments which have been made this fall, in all sections of the country, pretty conclusively settle the question as to the value of the Chinese Sugar Cane as a sugar producing plant. In a few instances small quantities, after much labor, have been made; but not enough to justify any one in growing the cane with a view to manufacture sugar. Ex-Gov. HAMMOND, of South Carolina, who planted largely, and at considerable expense made a thorough scientific test, gives up all hope. He intends, however, to continue to plant the cane to make syrup. W. B. BENNETT, of St. Louis, the well-known sugar-refiner, has made numerous tests with Chinese Syrup; and did not succeed, in any instance, in making it granulate. We have seen nothing further from Dr. LEM, the Georgia Chemist, since his successful experiment in September. We apprehend, from his silence, that he has failed in subsequent trials, to satisfy himself. We take it, therefore, as settled for the present, that the Chinese Sugar Cane is of no value for the purpose of making sugar. All who have tested it agree, however, that as a forage crop it is almost invaluable, whilst

THE MOLASSES, OR SYRUP, MADE OF IT, IS VERY SUPERIOR AND COSTS BUT LITTLE. THE SYRUP MADE BY MR. BEN. D. SMITH, OF WILLIAMSBURG, WHICH WE HAVE TESTED FULLY AND SATISFACTORILY, IS OF ITSELF ENOUGH TO ESTABLISH THE VALUE OF THE PLANT. A BETTER ARTICLE WE NEVER NEED WANT. ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, WE HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION, THAT THE CHINESE SUGAR CANE SHOULD BE CULTIVATED BY OUR PLANTERS, AND THAT IT WILL BE FOUND PROFITABLE TO DO SO. IT SHOULD BE THE AIM OF ALL TO DISCOVER THE BEST AND MOST ECONOMICAL METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SYRUP. WE SHOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE FROM ANY OF OUR PLANTING FRIENDS THE DETAILS OF THEIR EXPERIENCES. IN THE MEANTIME WE LAY BEFORE THEM THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE ON THE SUBJECT OF AN ALABAMA PLANTER, AS WE FIND IT IN THE "AMERICAN COTTON PLANTER AND SOIL OF THE SOUTH."

It is not noted that the writer found super carbonate of soda a better purifier of the syrup than lime. This fact deserves attention and should be carefully tested.

For the Cotton Planter and Soil.

The process of making good syrup from the Chinese Sugar Mill.

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LEGISLATURE OF TENNESSEE.

SENATE.

Tuesday, Nov. 24, 1857.

A communication was received from the Comptroller in answer to a resolution passed in the Senate on the 10th inst., relative to the interest on bonds issued to the State for the purpose of raising money for the improvement of the Tennessee River.

Mr. Gooden introduced a bill to amend the act in relation to the interest on bonds issued to the State for the purpose of raising money for the improvement of the Tennessee River.

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